

JORDAN TIMES

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AMMAN, SATURDAY, JANUARY 21, 1978 — SAFAR 12, 1398

N. Yemeni minister returns home

SAN'A, Jan. 20 (R). — North Yemen's Foreign Minister Abdullah Al Asnag returned here today after visits to Saudi Arabia, Jordan and Syria where he delivered messages on the Middle East from the Yemeni President Ahmad Al Ghashmi to the leaders of these countries. Mr. Asnag told Reuters that he found unanimous desire in the three countries for Arab solidarity "in the face of Israel which refuses peace by its insistence on occupying Arab land." He said more than one Arab country would make contacts in the coming few days aiming at the convening of an Arab summit. Mr. Asnag is due to visit Egypt on Monday and will visit Libyan Jamahiriya after Egypt.

Price: Jordan 50 fils; Syria 50 piastres; Lebanon 75 piastres; Saudi Arabia 1 riyal; UAE 1 dirham; Great Britain 25 pence.

Prince Hassan meets Callaghan

LONDON, Jan. 20 (R). — His Highness Crown Prince Hassan held talks today with British Prime Minister James Callaghan on latest Middle East developments, British officials said. Foreign Secretary David Owen was also present. Officials said Prince Hassan would be leaving for Washington on Sunday. Mr. Callaghan has been in touch with President Carter, President Anwar Sadat and Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin on the Israeli-Egyptian peace talks.

Volume 3, Number 857

Dayan: Egypt's terms for resuming peace talks are "absurd"

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Jan. 20 (R). — Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan said tonight President Anwar Sadat's conditions for resuming peace talks were "absurd." There will not be any talks "if Egypt does not modify its demands for Israeli concessions," he said in a television interview.

President Sadat, after a meeting with U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance today, said Egypt would return to political talks in Jerusalem only if Israel agreed in advance to withdraw from occupied Palestinian territories and accept Palestinian self-determination. Mr. Dayan said: "If he really proposes a prior Israeli withdrawal on issues which must be discussed, then it looks like a block... and if he says there is nothing to negotiate, the reply is that there won't be any discussions." Mr. Dayan said of Mr. Sadat: "He can say 'leave the Heights' and promise security in the name of (Syrian President Hafez) Assad." The foreign minister praised the United States' constructive role in mediating between the two countries but said he was concerned by U.S. pressure on Israel. He did not elaborate. A hardening in the Egyptian position was visible even before Foreign Minister Mohammad Ibrahim Kamel led his team home, he added. Mr. Dayan said he did not regret any statement he had made which might have upset the Egyptians. "(President) Sadat of all others has the least right to complain," he told the interviewer. "Only today he called (Israeli Prime Minister) Menachem Begin arrogant. It cannot be unilateral." The cabinet would decide on Sunday whether to continue with parallel military discussions with Egypt.

Ethiopia threatens U.S. with break in relations

WASHINGTON, Jan. 20 (R). — Ethiopia's ambassador to the United States said today U.S. failure to condemn all "aggression" in the area of Africa could lead to a break in relations between the U.S. and the United States. Ambassador, Mr. Ayelew defo, also told a news conference that if the West fails to give military aid to Ethiopia, it would be committing "a very, very big error." He said the wind of victory is beginning to blow. He was referring to reports confirmed by the U.S. Department of State that the Soviet Union, Britain, France, Germany and Italy will tomorrow in Washington discuss the Somalia-Ethiopia conflict. Mandefro said Ethiopia not allowing any foreign involvement in its "war of de-

thousands of East Europeans to fight Ethiopian wars." Page 6.

President Carter in his state union message to Congress yesterday said that among the Soviet Union, Cuba and Ethiopia were fueling the conflict. "There is a danger that the United States and Cuba will pit their own soldiers in conflict, transforming it into a local war to a confrontation with broader strategic implications," Mr. Carter said.

Desperate cancer patient hijacks Pakistani plane

ACHI, Jan. 20 (R). — A 40-year-old man said to be suffering from cancer today hijacked a Pakistani airliner in apparent bid to get treatment abroad.

The hijacker, unidentified but believed to be Pakistani, is holding 33 hostages at the airport and is demanding a ransom of \$500,000.

The hijacker then released nine passengers including a Japanese, three women and two boys, and demanded a ransom of \$100,000 and safe conduct abroad. The chairman of PIA, retired air Marshal Nur Khan, said the authorities had offered to provide the man with the best cancer treatment available in Pakistan or to send him abroad for treatment, but the hijacker had not so far accepted. Instead, he had raised his



President Anwar Sadat (right) and U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance smile for the photographers before their meeting in Cairo Friday to determine the future of the Middle East peace efforts. (AP wirephoto)

Sadat wants things to "cool a bit," Vance aide says on way to Ankara

ANKARA, Jan. 20 (R). — President Anwar Sadat wants to "let things cool a bit" before resuming peace talks with Israel in Jerusalem, a senior U.S. official said today. "We've hit a bump on the road," he told reporters. The official briefed journalists aboard the plane which took Mr. Vance from Cairo to Ankara for meetings with Turkish government leaders.

He said that in the present atmosphere, President Sadat believed that the foreign ministerial sessions in Jerusalem should remain in abeyance for a while. But Mr. Vance was hopeful that parallel military talks between the two countries in Egypt might restart shortly. Mr. Vance felt there was "a real overdose of emotions on both sides" and that the settlements issue was a major issue, the official said.

The U.S. official said it was possible that State Department Middle East expert Alfred Atherton, who has remained in Cairo, would shuttle between the Egyptian capital and Jerusalem as American mediation continues. Mr. Atherton will go to Israel tomorrow to brief Prime Minister Menachem Begin.

Vance gets cold greeting in Ankara

Turkish Foreign Minister Gunduz Okcu greeted the U.S. secretary of state today with a blunt warning against American interference in Turkish-Greek relations or the Cyprus dispute. Mr. Okcu said: "The trouble spots which Mr. Vance will be interested in, I think, will be Turkish-American relations which have had a low profile recently."

Mr. Vance acknowledged that defence would be among the topics discussed before he travels on tomorrow to Athens and said that "a whole range of issues" would be tackled.

These have been poor since the U.S. imposed an arms embargo on its NATO ally after the Turkish invasion of Cyprus in 1974. In a welcoming speech, Mr. Okcu said: "I don't think that Mr. Vance will have time to be interested in some trouble spots like Cyprus and Turkish-Greek relations."

"We believe that these issues should be solved by the interested parties... without any interference or involvement by any foreign or major power."

Mr. Okcu said: "The trouble spots which Mr. Vance will be interested in, I think, will be Turkish-American relations which have had a low profile recently."

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"Childish anti-Palestinian propaganda" angered Egyptian delegation, Butros Ghali says

PARIS, Jan. 20 (R). — Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr. Butros Butros Ghali said in an interview published here today Israel knows it cannot have peace and retain Arab lands.

He told the newspaper Le Monde that Israel's obsession for security was genuine, but it concealed expansionist aims.

Dr. Ghali said "Israel claims Arab territories, sometimes on grounds of security, sometimes in the name of the Bible."

The Israeli government is torn between a desire for peace and a desire to keep the territories, he said "but it knows that it cannot have both. It has not yet reached the stage for making a choice."

The Egyptian-Israeli peace talks have been suspended, not broken off, he said. He quoted U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance as saying "there are ups and downs in any negotiation."

Dr. Ghali said public statements by Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin and Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan had been "the drop of water which overflowed the vessel."

Dr. Ghali, a member of the Egyptian delegation to the peace talks, said that in order to show there was no doubt about the Israeli refusal to

talk to the Palestinians, "they deposited in our hotel rooms in Jerusalem some childish anti-Palestinian propaganda."

He showed Le Monde's correspondent J.P. Peroncel-Hugot a brochure inscribed with letters in blood reading "A PLO state (would) be a deadly danger."

Dr. Ghali said that President Sadat's move in going to Jerusalem had received no proper response. "To the act of faith in the Israelis made by our president, they have not responded with an act of faith in the Egyptians, Palestinians and Arabs, who are entitled to expect such an act from the Israeli side," he said.

President Sadat has gone to Jerusalem for the Palestinians as much as for the Egyptians."

Sadat warns Israel must modify its stand before political talks can resume

DELTA BARRAGES, Egypt, Jan. 20 (Agencies). — President Sadat said today peace talks between the foreign ministers of Egypt and Israel will resume only if Israel modified its stand on basic issues. After talks with U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance, who sought to mediate, Mr. Sadat told a news conference that his condition for resuming the political talks was that Israel would declare its readiness to withdraw from Arab land occupied in the 1967 Middle East war.

"We were working on a declaration of principles in which Israel must show its determination to restore the land and accept Palestinian self-determination," a grim Mr. Sadat said.

"Whenever Israel chooses to agree not to trample on others' land or sovereignty, everything can resume again. The minimum we accept is a declaration of principles, an Israeli agreement to withdraw from occupied territories and the Palestinians' right to self-government."

Stressing that he was not imposing conditions on Israel, the Egyptian president said the door was still open for talks. "Whatever time is needed, to achieve this is a matter of negotiations," he said, "and it can be agreed upon in a less dangerous situation than Israel is creating now."

Military committee may resume activities

He added that he and Mr. Vance had agreed that military committee headed by the Egyptian and Israeli defence ministers should resume work in Cairo and that "constant" contacts should be maintained between both sides.

Mr. Vance told the news conference the Palestinian question was "the most difficult of the issues" and Mr. Sadat said he agreed.

The secretary of state flew from Israel today for the meeting with President Sadat, who on Wednesday recalled his delegation from peace talks in Jerusalem and threw into the balance his whole initiative for an Arab-Israeli settlement.

Diplomats in Cairo said today that, judging from Mr. Sadat's harsh tone, it would be far from easy for the United States -- in its present mediator's role -- to bring the foreign ministers of the two sides back to the conference table.

The Egyptian leader repeated spoke of "the old arrogant Israeli way of thinking" in referring to Premier Menachem Begin's refusal to offer Palestinian self-determination and pledge to withdraw from all occupied Arab territories.

Accusing Israel of twisting the peace-seeking process, he said: "The door to peace is not closed. But at this point there must be a re-evaluation of the whole thing."

He also attacked the "harsh words" used since Wednesday by Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan.

Vance brings new Israeli ideas

Mr. Vance saw Mr. Begin and Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan in Jerusalem before flying to Egypt and said he brought new Israeli ideas.

"Yes, we shall be studying them. And we shall be in contact with Mr. Vance," President Sadat said. Mr. Alfred Atherton, U.S. Assistant Secretary of State, is to stay in the Middle East, returning soon to Jerusalem.

Mr. Sadat laughed heartily, then said "You had better listen to what I am going to say tomorrow."

Mr. Vance said little at the joint news conference, where he stood beside Mr. Sadat on a lawn outside the lodge. He looked glum.

He later flew to Ankara to meet new Turkish government leaders and discuss Cyprus. President Sadat hammered away today at the theme of Israeli withdrawal from Arab territory, on evident collision course with Mr. Begin who yesterday deemed it "preposterous" that the Arabs should seek the return of Israeli-occupied East Jerusalem.

Mr. Sadat said Foreign Minister Dayan had proposed that "we sit together and bargain and come half way."

"Half way for us is losing land and losing sovereignty," declared the Egyptian leader. "No, if this is the form you want us to work in, no."

"We do not seek peace at any price. They will be wrong in Israel if they thought of this."

Mr. Sadat denounced Israel's desire to leave settlements of about 2,500 Jews in Egypt's Sinai desert, saying it was "logic that no one in the world can accept."

Somali president's plane rammed by Aeroflot

BAGHDAD, Jan. 20 (AFP). — An aircraft of the Soviet state-run Aeroflot company ran into and damaged the private plane of President Mohammad Siad Barre of Somalia in San'a today, it was reported.

The Iraqi news agency said in a report from San'a that an airport worker was seriously injured in the accident and traffic was held up for over an hour.

It said the wing of the Soviet plane tore into the wing of President Siad's aircraft which was waiting to fly him out of North Yemen.

Mr. Sadat's tone today expressed growing bitterness in Egypt that his bid for peace, made in defiance of "hawkish" Arab states had not brought major Israeli concessions.

Cairo's Al Ahran newspaper summed up Egyptian feeling today with a cartoon which depicted an angel of peace and a tiny Mr. Begin.

"The trouble is, Mr. Begin, that you don't measure up to me," read the caption.

There was no confirmation here of the possibility of a Washington summit, rumoured but denied by the American State Department, between Mr. Sadat, Mr. Begin and American President Jimmy Carter.

PLO said to propose sending team to Washington

LONDON, Jan. 20 (AFP). — The Palestine Liberation Organisation has suggested to the American government through an intermediary that it send a delegation to Washington to explain its views on the Middle East crisis, according to the Arab-language weekly Al Dustour appearing here today.

The PLO approached Washington through the Speaker of Egypt's People's Assembly Sayed Marei, who inquired if it would be possible for a Palestinian delegation to visit the U.S. for that purpose which would include top Palestinian officials and among whom Mr. Farouk Kaddumi would be a leading member, the weekly reported.

According to the weekly, the U.S. had asked Mr. Marei, before accepting the proposal, to ask the PLO if it would be prepared to agree to a "link" between the proposed Palestinian entity and Jordan.

The PLO had asked that the negotiations be based on the Soviet-American declaration on the Middle East, the weekly said.

U.N. body backs rights of Palestinians in statement

UNITED NATIONS, Jan. 20 (R). — The General Assembly's Committee on Palestinian Rights issued a reminder today of what were termed the fundamental principles relevant to the Palestine question, "the heart of the Middle East problem."

Among the most important principles involved, Senegalese ambassador Medoune Fall, the committee chairman said, were that no Middle East solution could be envisaged that did not take full account of the Palestinians' legitimate aspirations.

Full implementation of their right to return to their homes and achieve national sovereignty would contribute decisively to a settlement, he said.

The participation of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, "the representative of the Palestinian people" on an equal footing with other parties was indispensable in all peace efforts, under U.N. auspices, Mr. Fall went on.

Another principle cited in his letter was the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force and "the consequent obligation for complete and speedy evacuation of any territory so occupied."

Mr. Fall also mentioned in his letter that the Palestine National Council at its Cairo meeting last March declared that any settlements or agreement affecting the rights of the Palestinian people concluded in its absence would be null and void.

King Hassan lauds Sadat's veto of dubious peace

RABAT, Jan. 20 (R). — King Hassan said today he hoped Egypt and other confrontation states would come together to "exercise the greatest possible pressure" on Israel until it renounced its occupation of Arab lands.

In a message to President Anwar Sadat, the Moroccan monarch praised the Egyptian leader's decision to suspend talks with Israel. "Your stand means that you reject any dubious peace that will not render justice to the Arabs regarding their legitimate rights and not achieve the true peace expected," the King said.

"We hope that the attitude you have adopted today will encourage solidarity and entente within the Arab family and will constitute a new opportunity to conjugate wills and efforts," he added.

The monarch said he also hoped Israel would adopt a different attitude and engage in a new phase of negotiations "on logical foundations that take into account legitimate Arab rights and answer the desires of the international community."

demand to \$one million and 10 million rupees (about \$one million) in local currency. The hijacker's original deadline of 10:00 GMT passed without incident, airport sources said, and the remaining 27 passengers and six crew are believed to be unharmed. The airport control tower maintained radio contact with the plane, but at one stage the hijacker threw out a note written in Urdu, Pakistan's official language. Senior army officers representing Pakistan's military government have joined airline officials and police in discussing possible moves to end the hijack. International and local flights to and from Karachi have not been disrupted by the hijacking.

JORDAN TIMES

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Waiting for the bold men and women

The breakdown in the Egyptian-Israeli negotiations this week has quickly highlighted an aspect of the current peace-making drive that we have always felt to be crucial -- the role of the United States. This role has been dramatised by the visit to Egypt yesterday of U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance, but judging from the experience of the past decade or so, the Arabs have to be collectively discouraged that anything really constructive can come out of the Americans now. This is not a natural pessimism, but rather a cultivated pessimism based on the performance of the Americans.

The most glaring display of American weak knees that we keep in mind was the manner in which the joint American-Soviet statement on the Middle East in October was quickly overwhelmed by an Israeli campaign directed squarely and ferociously at the United States presidency. Bad enough, one thinks, that the joint statement was relegated to the filing cabinets of history by the American-Israeli working paper. Worse, one thinks, that the Israeli Defence Minister brought the American president up to a New York hotel and kept him up half the night, to produce a document of questionable value. It is against this background that we now follow the Americans as they try to help get the Egyptian-Israeli negotiations back on track. And it is from these kinds of power dynamics that we draw our pessimism.

The United States' role as a mediator in the Middle East has been on centre-stage now for several years, and there is very little to be seen in the way of results. The efforts of the Carter administration, centring on a negotiated and comprehensive settlement, are wiser and more daring than the Kissinger approach. But a good approach by itself is insufficient. It requires bold men and women to activate it and make it work, and we have yet to see those kind of people in action.

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

AL RA'I, on Friday, said Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin has pushed the current peace effort to a cul-de-sac again despite his talk of Israeli wish for peace with its neighbours. Mr. Begin has publicly repeated his intransigent positions and announced Israel's insistence on keeping control over Jewish settlements in occupied Arab territories. It would seem that Mr. Begin is putting the United States to the test to see whether it will let him get away with his stubbornness. Meanwhile, Egypt is awaiting American pressure to be put on Israel to force it to change its attitude. As much as we hope for peace talks to succeed we must see that Mr. Begin's stubbornness is a challenge for us to accede to his conditions and accept defeat -- unless we decide to face up to the challenge.

AL DUSTOUR said it is clear from the fate of the peace talks in occupied Jerusalem that what cannot be decided in a summit of leaders cannot be decided anywhere else. For since Premier Begin's stubbornness made of last month's Ismailia talks a failure, peace talks have been a failure until now. What has been happening is that Israel has shown it prefers to keep the land even at the risk of defeating all efforts for peace. The Arabs must learn a lesson: it is only their strength in unity that is able to make Israel agree to a just peace in the Middle East.

Jerusalem's mayor chronicles half a century of land seizure by Zionists

AMMAN, Jan. 20 (JNA). — Israel's plans to swallow the whole of Palestine began during the British mandate when the Jews sought to reduce Arab possessions gradually, the Mayor of Jerusalem Rouhi Al Khatib said in a recent interview with the Jordan News Agency.

In the interview Mr. Al Khatib explained the political dimension of the Jewish settlement in the West Bank, while Brigadier (ret) Fayez Jaber, Secretary General of the Royal Commission for Jerusalem Affairs, spoke about the settlement's military dimensions.

Mr. Al Khatib went on to say that in order to achieve their objectives the Israelis followed a policy of terrorising the Arab inhabitants into leaving or selling their land.

This Israeli design was most apparent in Jerusalem where Jewish real estate in 1948 was

only some four per cent of the area within the municipal bounds. During the mandate, the proportion went up to 17 per cent through acquisition in accordance with the Land Acquisition Law.

After 1948, the proportion of Jewish property rose to 80 per cent through illegal seizure of the lands of absentees and by forced sales.

This means, Mr. Al Khatib said, that Israel got nearly 63 per cent of the Jerusalem City area by illegal and unlawful means, on the pretext of appropriating absentee property. The Israelis enacted a law especially for this purpose, in contradiction of all international laws in usage.

Following the 1967 war, the Israeli occupation authorities expropriated a further 22,000 dunums of the remaining Arab land in the City of Jerusalem, so that by then 84 per cent

of Arab land had been usurped. Whereas Arabs formed 75 per cent of the population of Jerusalem in 1918 and the Jews 25 per cent, the ratio has since been completely reversed Mr. Al Khatib said.

The number of Jews living in Palestine went up from 56,000 in 1918 when they owned no more than one per cent of the land to 600,000 in 1948 and to 2.5 million after the establishment of Israel.

Following the 1967 war, forty new Jewish settlements were

set up mostly in the Jerusalem area and the Jordan Valley. They were built on purely Arab land after their owners were driven off or on the pretext that the owners were absent or that the land was government property.

Brigadier Jaber described the Israeli settlements in the West Bank as military fortresses. He said that Jerusalem for instance was surrounded by a series of armed settlements designed to withstand any military move by the Arabs.

Gen. Shaker returns from Pakistan visit

AMMAN, Jan. 20 (JNA). — Commander-in-Chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces Lt. Gen. Sharif Zeid Ibn Shaker and the accompanying military delegation returned here today after an official six-day visit to Pakistan.

On his way home Gen. Ibn Shaker stopped yesterday at the Dubai airport where he held talks with the Minister of Defence of the United Arab Emirates, Sheikh Mohammad Al Rashid on bolstering military cooperation between the two countries.

He and the accompanying delegation were received at the Amman Civil airport by the chief of staff for military intelligence and other top-ranking army officers.

Bahjat Talhouni meets Elias Sarkis in Beirut

BEIRUT, Jan. 20 (JNA). — Jordan's Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament and Chairman of the Arab Parliamentary Union Bahjat Talhouni today met Lebanese President Elias Sarkis and briefed him on the results of his consultations with Syrian People's Council and Lebanese Parliamentary officials.

Mr. Talhouni told a Jordan News Agency reporter

that he also conveyed His Majesty King Hussein's regards to President Sarkis who expressed his deep respect for His Majesty and his gratitude for President Assad's role in preserving Lebanon's unity and stability.

His meeting with President Sarkis was attended by Speaker of the Lebanese Parliament Kamel As'ad with whom he discussed matters related to Arab parliamentary affairs.

Campaign launched to combat distortion by Israel of Arab history

AMMAN, Jan. 20 (JT). — The Council of the Arab Universities Union has resolved to support Arab universities in the occupied territories by every possible means.

The resolution, taken during the recent meeting of the council in Doha, Qatar, was forwarded to Prime Minister Mudar Badran by the University of Jordan on Thursday.

The resolution states that education in the occupied Arab territories is being subjected to attempts by the Israeli occupation authorities to rewrite history and to distort the true nature of the Arab-Islamic heritage.

The union member universities resolved to contribute sums ranging between some thousand and ten thousand annually, to be earmarked for

the Bir Zeit and the National Al Najah (Nablus) universities which are members of the union. The money will be distributed proportional to the number of students in each of the two universities.

The resolution also appealed to the Arab countries, the Arab League and its affiliated bodies and Arab and world organisations concerned, to provide appropriate financial backing for both universities.

The union formed a all-Arab committee headed by President of the University of Jordan Dr. Ishaq Al Farhan to study the possibility of beaming educational programmes to Arab inhabitants in the occupied territories, from radio and T.V. stations in the Arab confrontation states. A special transmitter might be set up in cooperation with UNESCO.

National News Roundup

Romanian folk troupe performs

ZARQA, Jan. 20 (JNA). — The visiting Romanian Folklore Troupe gave a performance in the housing suburb of the Jordan Petroleum Refinery Company near here Thursday. The show, which was attended by the Romanian ambassador and Romanians working in the refinery's expansion project, included Romanian popular dances.

Potash finance meeting announced

AMMAN, Jan. 20 (JNA). — It was announced today that a number of Arab financiers will gather here during the first half of March to discuss financing the potash and the Maqren projects and decide on the economic feasibility of the latter. The cabinet approved that an official of the Jordan Valley Authority should go to Abu Dhabi, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia to meet with the authorities of the financing funds in these countries and discuss the economic importance of the Maqren dam projects with a view to their participating in the conference.

Japanese official to visit Jordan

AMMAN, Jan. 20 (JNA). — An advisor to the Japanese Prime Minister will arrive in Amman next week to hold talks with Jordanian officials for promoting cooperation between Jordan and Japan and for studying the possibility of participating in financing a number of development projects in Jordan.

NOTICE

A representative from the Internal Revenue Service will be at the American Embassy from Jan. 21 to Jan. 25 to give assistance to U.S. tax payers. Please call the American Embassy, Tel. No. 44371, Extension 230 for an appointment.

Deadline for family books extended

AMMAN, Jan. 20 (JNA). — Director General of the Civil Status Department Rifadi Al Hazayneh said today that the interim period for registration of citizens and members of their families for getting the family book and identity cards will be extended until July 30, 1979. Mr. Al Hazayneh said the step aims at giving citizens more time to register their families and Jordanians abroad an opportunity for registration, particularly during the summer holidays. The last deadline for families registration at the civil status department was June 30, 1978.

Phosphate exports increase

AMMAN, Jan. 20 (JNA). — The quantity of phosphate exported through the port of Aqaba last year amounted to 1,514,066 tons. A statistical survey by the port's authority said this quantity is 475,515 tons more than that exported during 1967.

Schools reopen

AMMAN, Jan. 20 (JNA). — Government schools all over the Kingdom will resume classes tomorrow (Saturday) for the second semester.

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BUSINESS GRAPEVINE

Compiled and edited by John Bonar

Is that "nothing tastes better" taste coming back

Coca Cola's hopes of getting off the Arab boycott list are riding high following their agreement to invest in a multi-million dollar agri-business in Egypt. The Egyptians are preparing a recommendation to lift the Atlanta, Georgia, based Coca Cola Corporation from the boycott list and this will be considered at the next meeting of the Arab Boycott Council. If a majority of Arab countries agree, there seems no reason why Coca Cola won't be back in the Arab world this year. Indeed I understand that one of Coca's first moves if it comes off the blacklist, will be to establish a bottling plant here in Jordan. There would be another plant in Saudi Arabia and the existing plant in Egypt, which has lain idle for eight years, would be dusted off and reactivated.

The last drink of coke I had in the Arab World was in Morocco in 1968, although something remarkably similar has been sold in Lebanon ever since the boycott went into force under the brand name of "K-Cola."

A few select Beirut hotels, including the Phoenix International used to get their K-Cola in regular Coke bottles.

Saudi Arabia to get Hiltons

Hilton Hotels are moving into Saudi Arabia -- as operator of three deluxe hotels and related convention and resort facilities. The contract for construction

has just been taken by Turner International Industries of the U.K. at a total cost of over \$200 million.

The owner of the Saudi Arabian Hiltons is the Real Estate Development Company -- Redco -- of Riyadh. The overall project, will be constructed in three phases. The first phase will begin this month and all three phases should be completed by Dec. 1980.

Gold in them thar sands?

As if they didn't have enough of the sticky black variety it's now reported that Saudi Arabia has "significant" deposits of the real yellow stuff. According to a recent edition of the Beirut press digest, Middle East Reporter, the discovery of the gold fields, 270 kms. northeast of Riyadh, was made by the British firm, Consolidated Gold Fields Inc., after analysing satellite photos of the area.

Air Intergulf changes stream

The Sharjah based Air Intergulf bowed out of the air taxi business because most of its customers wouldn't pay for its last year and has turned instead to operating split charter cargo services to the Gulf from the U.K.

Air Intergulf has long been a sales representative for Arab Wings, the Amman based executive jet charter company. It was that none of the bill that weren't paid by Air Intergulf's customers were for the use of Arab Wings jets.

BUSINESS GRAPEVINE

Business Grapevine appears every Saturday in the Jordan Times. We welcome news of company activities, new factories opened, new contracts won, new offices established in Jordan and the Middle East.

We are particularly interested in hearing from banks and regional offices of foreign and international companies in Jordan who are working regionally.

If you have an item you think will be of interest to us, please call any evening between 6:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m. or write to Business Grapevine, the Jordan Times, P.O. Box 6710, Amman.

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at the Jordan University Library Hall

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First Jordanian-Syrian joint economic venture proves a success as Jett buses shuttle twixt Amman, Damascus in style

By Lee S. Tesdell
Special to the Jordan Times

With a 50 per cent increase in the scheduled tour group business in Jordan during 1977, the Jordan Express Tourist Transport Co. Ltd. (Jett) is an important factor in the Jordanian transportation industry. Tourists, however, are not the only concern of Jett Co. Several years ago a bus route was established between Amman and Damascus, and has since become a well used method of travel between the two capitals.

"It was the first enterprise to come out of the agreement," said Jett's Managing Director Mr. Adnan Mufti, referring to the economic ties between

Jordan and Syria. Although neither Jett nor Karnak Co. of Damascus asked for the joint route, both companies agreed to their governments request to furnish four buses daily from Amman to Damascus and the same number from Damascus to Amman. Two buses also go from Irbid to Damascus daily.

Border facilities

Mr. Mufti said, however, that before his company agreed to the arrangement, they asked for one condition, "facilities at the border". It was agreed, he said, that priority would be given to the buses at the Der'a-Ramtha border station.

The cooperation between

Jett and Karnak is not a partnership, explained Mr. Mufti to the Jordan Times. "We provide the place here and they provide the place in Damascus". The depot which Jett provides is on the Salt road, north of Abdali, and the station which Karnak provides is at the International Fair grounds in Damascus, although tickets are bought at an office closer to downtown Damascus.

"We are also an agent for Pan Tours" said Mr. Mufti, which offers a thrice weekly service from Amman to Istanbul, a forty hour ride.

The Jordan Times recently experienced the Damascus-Amman route first-hand and found that indeed the border crossing avoided some of the usually extensive red tape and waiting in lines. As Mr. Mufti explained, people wouldn't ride the bus if it took the same amount of time as travelling by private car. By offering better conditions at the border, though, his company attracts large numbers of passengers. "Only ten per cent are foreigners," said Mr. Mufti of the passengers on the Amman-Damascus-Amman route.

Cold soft drinks and hot coffee and tea are added features of the four hour bus ride. The 3:00 p.m. bus from Damascus to Amman, which the Jordan Times recently rode, arrived very close to 7:00 p.m. The passengers were occupied, while the daylight lasted, with watching the long distance truck traffic on the highway.

Asked how the idea of serving airline style refreshments on a bus originated, Mr. Mufti told the Jordan Times, "It was my idea". Karnak Co. is still not convinced of the value of this service, he said. The hostesses who serve the travellers en route, start at wages of JD 90 per month. There are now four working for Jett. The drivers, as the hostesses, said Mr. Mufti, "are selected carefully". The long distance drivers begin at JD 140 per month and the drivers of the tourist buses, usually chart-

ers, start at a lower salary, but can make up to JD 200 per month with tips. The driver, Mufti explained, must be "skilled, good looking and smart". There are now about 25 drivers with the company, he continued.

"We don't need more than one spare driver," he added, because the working day is usually not long.

Asked how his company decided on the Mercedes 302 and 303 buses (some are the Otomarsan, made in Turkey, others are made in Germany) Mr. Mufti said that they originally considered the "Volvo, Fiat, Henschel and Mercedes" machines and decided on the Mercedes because it was the cheapest. The Mercedes comes equipped with a small kitchen, where the refreshments are prepared.

Jett Co. began operating buses in Jordan in 1967 after receiving the state concession in 1966. Because they operate under a concession from the government, seven per cent of the gross profit yearly goes to the government. This does not worry Jett however as the Ministry of Tourism uses some of the profits to "promote tourism," said Mr. Mufti, which in turn tends to stimulate tourist use of Jett buses.

Looking to the future, Mr. Mufti said, "at the moment we are not going to expand, our priorities are: first, incoming tourists, second, external tourists, and third the long distance routes".

As far as the tourists are concerned, Petra is the number one attraction in Jordan, but they also go to see Jerash, Mr. Nebu, the desert, places, Wadi Rum and Aqaba with the buses.

Jett started operations in March 1967 with a capital of JD 200,000 and 350 shareholders. The company has a total of 60 buses, its own maintenance facilities and a branch office in Irbid. The Amman-Petra line operates twice a week all year long but during the winter uses smaller buses as the demand is less than in summer.

Extinction threatens the Arabian desert hawk

The desert hawk is threatened with extinction. Thirty years ago a hunter could buy a hawk in any Arab country for \$20. Today the minimum price is \$2,000. Prices can go as high as \$12,000 dollars for a "chahine", a species of Peregrine falcon renowned for its eyesight, its long tight claws, its perseverance in the hunt and its fabulous speed. A hawk can dive on its helpless prey at speeds in excess of 200 kms. an hour. With the decline in the number of hawks -- and also the decline in the number of its prey -- the ancient sport of falconry may be on the way out.

BEIRUT, Jan. 20 (AFP). — Born 4,000 years ago in the Arabian sands and introduced to Europe by returning crusading knights, falconry has long been a favourite theme of Arab poets.

The gracious sight of a hawk, circling the blue sky high above the bare earth in search of his prey -- usually bustards migrating south to escape the rigours of a Central Asian winter -- has long been considered one of the most romantic sights of the desert.

"Originally it was a means for the desert bedouin to find food in his hostile environment. Today it is a sport that symbolises all the traditions of the desert," a falconer explained.

Only for the rich

It is a sport that only sheikhs, desert princes and oil tycoons can now afford, even

Absurdity's loophole

By Bassam Bishuti

All's well that begins well

CHORUS: Who will save us this turmoil of endless war? Who is the man, the great man, to change the world for our sons and daughters and save us?

WARAN DASAT (a warrior and leader of the people): I shall, I shall. Look! (Sprouts wings. Flies heavenward. Descends abruptly).

CHORUS: Hail great Waran! Hail great leader! Show us the path to salvation, the way of peace.

WARAN (stands at a podium. Faces the audience. Clenches his fists and intones in a voice as thick and sweet as the treacle of Upper Egypt): The time is now for war or for peace. I am for peace. I shall go anywhere and do anything for peace. Who will make peace with me?

CHEMANEM INBEG (his old enemy, dressed in the robes of a high priest): I shall, old enemy Waran, I shall. I shall make peace with you. (The two embrace warmly as the atmosphere grows hotter by the second).

CHORUS: Generations have waited for this moment, O great leaders! We trust you with our lives and the lives of our children and their yet unborn children to make peace.

WARAN (at the podium. Wipes his brow with the back of his hand. Looks ahead into the void, over the heads of members of the audience, to see a vision none else can see): I call for peace in the land and peace shall come. I forget my old enemies and they shall be forgotten. Disbelievers will mock but they are as worms in the expanse of the fields. I stake my life on it and peace shall come. I promise it.

CHORUS: Hail great leader, our man of peace!

CHEMANEM (folds his hands across his chest in priestly fashion. Puts on a sad face): I also promise peace but (his face now adopts

a cunning priestly look) there are difficulties in the path of peace.

WARAN (taken to the quick, jerks suddenly and mops his brow more nervously): Nothing shall stand in the way of peace. I shall do anything. I shall do everything. I have promised peace and staked my life on it therefore nothing will stand in the way of peace.

CHORUS: Yes, lord of peace, do not let anything stand in the way of peace.

CHEMANEM (his eyes sparkle with a delight no one knows the source of): Nothing shall stand in the path of peace. But peace stands in the path of peace. We must remove peace before we have peace.

WARAN (with obvious anger): What nonsense is this? How can peace stand in the way of peace?

CHORUS: Answer, Chemanem, answer quickly. How can peace stand in the way of peace?

CHEMANEM (extends his hands forward, palms up. Returns them, folded, upon his chest): As a droplet of water stands in the path of another droplet of water thus preventing its movement, so peace can stand in the path of peace.

CHORUS: Speak Waran! Save us from Chemanem's words. Silence him with an answer!

WARAN (turns his head away silently. Lifts his eyes to the heavens. Follows them with his hands in a pleading gesture to his god): O lord of all creation what shall I say now? I have staked my life on peace but how can I remove peace to have peace? How shall I stand at this podium today and face the people? How shall I answer to Chemanem's words?

CHEMANEM (laughs): Don't worry, you'll think of something!

though for the poorest Arab falconry retains all its ancient mystique.

The bond between the hunter and the bird is all.

During the training period, which lasts from three to five weeks, hawk and man never leave each other. The falconer eats with one hand, and feeds tidbits throughout his meal to the hawk perched on his other gloved hand.

The hawk perches next to his master during the night. They are together in the streets, and in the supermarkets. The man talks to the bird continually, stroking him and calling him by a pet name, usually that of an ancient warrior or hero of Arab antiquity.

Gulf Air (whose symbol is a hawk) even allows master

and bird to travel together. But the owner must pay double fare.

Hawk conference

A year ago, United Arab Emirates President Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan -- owner of 150 hunting hawks -- called the First International Conference on Falconry at Abu Dhabi. Its aim: To keep falconry alive.

More than 150 adepts -- each with his own falcon -- came from Europe, Asia and America. They met, discussed their art and sadly concluded that falconry is doomed unless preventive action on an international scale is taken. The birds of prey are becoming rarer and so is the prey. The desert is going through

ecological torment. Its fauna is becoming rarer, the balance of nature is broken. The hunter no longer travels across the desert on his horse or on camel, but in his jeep.

Rare sight

The sight of a falconer is becoming rare in the Arabian desert. Sheikh Zayed, like other Gulf sportsmen, must now spend several weeks abroad to indulge in his pastime.

Every year he organises a large hunting party to his estate in Sind, Pakistan where the last large flocks of bustards still gather.

A good, trained bird of prey can kill 10 bustards a day.

So far the time being the hunt goes on and the ancient Arab tradition continues, but under new skies.

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Carter states intent to protect integrity of \$, urges effective energy programme

WASHINGTON, Jan. 20 (AFP). — President Jimmy Carter last night affirmed his intent to "protect the integrity of the dollar," and he called on Congress to pass "an effective energy conservation programme." In the traditional state of the Union message to the Senate and House of Representatives, Mr. Carter said that "energy legislation has failed the American people. 'The greatest contribution we can make to the world economy would be an effective energy conservation programme at home,' he said.

"We will not hesitate to take the actions needed to protect the integrity of the dollar," he added.

Mr. Carter, devoting two-thirds of his message to economic matters, stressed the need for consolidating the recovery which had taken place during 1977, which he called a "good" year.

"Politically, economically and in spirit the state of our union is sound," President Carter said.

"Our economic success at home is almost equal to the success of our international economic policy," he said. "An effective energy programme, strong investment and productivity and controlled inflation will improve our trade balance and help protect the integrity of the dollar."

The president said his plan to control inflation would de-

pend on cooperation from both trade unions and the business community.

He promised tax reductions totalling \$25 billion, with \$17 billion benefiting individuals. The federal budget, which he will unveil on Monday, would be two per cent higher (in real terms) than the current one, Mr. Carter said. A notable increase would come in credits to fight unemployment among young people.

Turning to the subject of U.S. security Mr. Carter said that it is and will remain "our first and prime concern."

Mr. Carter said security depended on "national will," the strength of U.S. armed forces and the "strength of our alliances."

"Security can be enhanced by agreements with potential adversaries which reduce the threat of nuclear disasters,"

he added.

With this in mind, Washington had undertaken "difficult and prolonged" negotiations with the Soviet Union on strategic arms limitation, he said.

Foreign exchanges disappointed with Carter's message

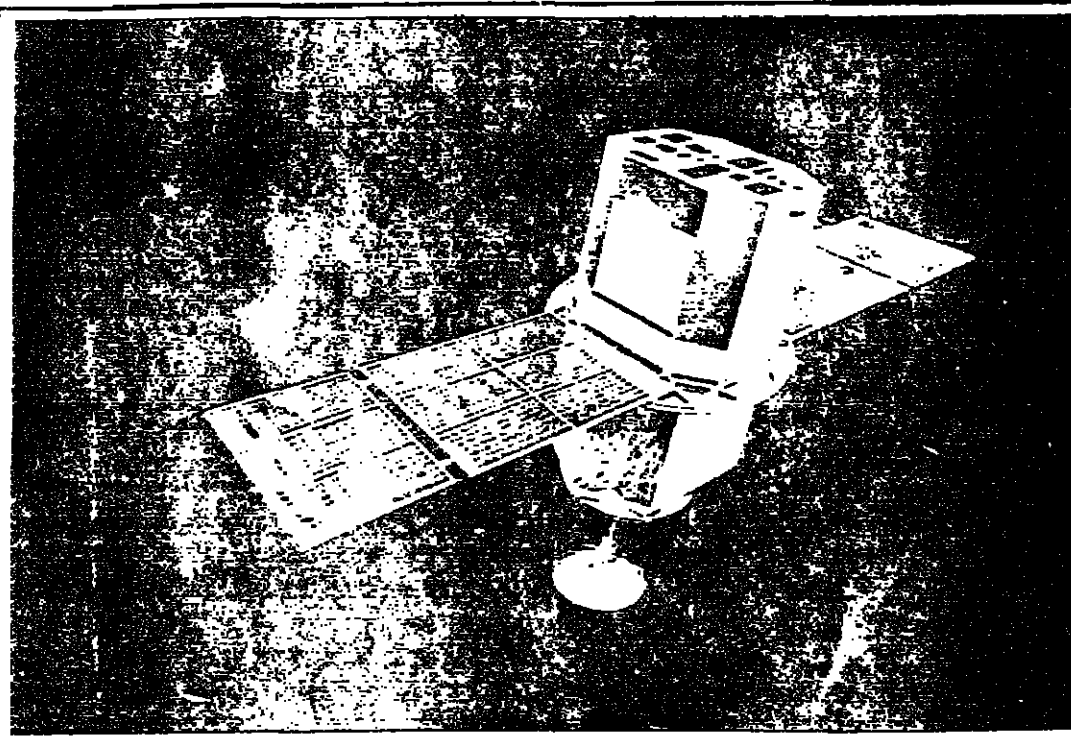
LONDON, Jan. 20 (R). — Foreign exchange markets today reacted with disappointment to President Jimmy Carter's State of the Union message and its lack of new concrete measures for defending the dollar.

In London, the initial reaction to the speech was that there was no new content, but some dealers said passage of an energy bill and progress of an effective anti-inflation bill could support the dollar later this year.

Mr. Carter's message received a mixed reaction from Japanese government and business circles. The Finance Ministry said it regarded his statement on the dollar's stance as the most definite U.S. stance to date on retaining confidence in the currency. But traders on the Tokyo Foreign Exchange Market expressed disappointment that Mr. Carter announced no concrete measures to defend the dollar, it said.

"Solid progress" had also been made in talks with the USSR towards a comprehensive treaty banning all nuclear explosions," he added.

Washington also Moscow were also studying the possibilities of a chemical warfare treaty and were seeking an arms limitation agreement in Europe of cooperation with NATO countries and another in the Indian Ocean.



This is a drawing of the Solar Maximum Mission (SMM) spacecraft, under development by the United States. It is the first satellite to be built on the modular concept; that is, its scientific instruments will be in sectional units. These can be removed for repair or replacement by crews aboard the orbiting Space Shuttle. The SMM is powered by solar cells. Its primary objectives include the investigations of solar flares, continuing the studies begun by the series of Orbiting Solar Observatories (OSO). First launch from Florida is expected in late 1979. (IPS photo)

Gulf is determined to set up own petrochemical industries, says Saudi industry minister

BAHRAIN, Jan. 20 (R). — Saudi Industry Minister Ghazi Al Gosaibi said here that the Gulf oil-exporting countries were determined to set up petrochemical industries of their own in spite of threats of a possible trade war with the industrialised states.

Speaking last night at a dinner given by the Bahrain Engineers Society, Dr. Al Gosaibi said it was true a petrochemical complex in the Gulf would cost about 30 per cent more to set up than a similar one in an industrialised country.

But he said that "this should not lead us to overlook the enormous resources in energy and materials which we have available in the area and which could easily compensate over the medium and long term for any initial cost in-

vested in establishing these industries."

Dr. Al Gosaibi dismissed Western fears that the establishment of petrochemical industries in the Gulf might lead to a glut or closure of plants in the industrialised West.

He also criticised calls for protectionist barriers against Arab petrochemicals. The entry of the Gulf states into the market "will not endanger the world petrochemical industry if that industry recognises from now that the Gulf is going to become an important centre" of that industry, he added.

Dr. Al Gosaibi said that "those who talk irresponsibly about closing the doors in front of the (Arab) petrochemicals should learn from the past."

"Bitter experience (has taught) that trade wars through customs barriers are futile practices which result in the defeat of all parties," he added.

Dr. Al Gosaibi, whose country is setting up a huge petrochemicals complex at Jubail on the Gulf, said the Gulf area was the natural place for the production of petrochemicals.

"We are aware that we cannot compete with Switzerland in the manufacture of watches — and we shall not try." "But we are aware that we can produce high-quality petrochemicals at competitive prices — and therefore we shall do just that," he added.

Dr. Al Gosaibi concluded by appealing for cooperation with the industrialised states. "We wish to include them not only as exporters of machinery, equipment and technology, but also as partners because we want our industrial experience to forge a new path of cooperation rather than conflict," he said.

EEC head offers new trade accord to African States

KHARTOUM, Jan. 20 (R).

The European Common Market would welcome the participation of Angola, Mozambique and, after independence, Namibia (South West Africa) and Zimbabwe (Rhodesia) in a new trade and aid convention the EEC is to negotiate later this year with 52 developing nations.

In a speech given at the opening of Khartoum's First International Trade Fair yesterday, EEC Commission President Roy Jenkins said the new accord, updating the 1975 Lome Convention, would be open to these states if they wished to join and were accepted by the present members.

Angola and Mozambique gained independence in 1975 after centuries of Portuguese colonial rule. Namibia is still controlled by South Africa, while nationalist guerrillas are trying to overthrow the white regime in Rhodesia, which broke away from Britain 12 years ago.

The Lome Convention links the EEC with 52 African, Caribbean and Pacific countries. It is regarded as one of the community's major achievements in external relations.

In his prepared speech Mr. Jenkins, on an official three-day visit, specified six priority

areas in negotiations for the new accord.

Referring in particular to Africa, Mr. Jenkins called for the development of more medium sized industries for processing raw materials, a greater effort to develop agriculture, and a wide-ranging programme to improve the continent's transport and communications network.

More attention should be paid to the potential of solar energy, Mr. Jenkins said. Education and vocational training also needed help to meet Africa's pressing development needs.

Mr. Jenkins also pledged continued community support to countries tackling the problem of drought and desert encroachment.

Mr. Jenkins said the momentum of last year's North-South Dialogue must not be lost.

"We hope that the negotiating conference will be able to resume on a useful basis," he said. "We believe that a solution should and will be found."

World Bank to step up credit to Egypt, help finance \$10 b. plan

CAIRO, Jan. 20 (AFP). — The President of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, Robert McNamara, conferred here yesterday with the Egyptian Vice-Premier in Charge of Finance, Economy and Planning, Abdul Mone'm Qaisuni, and other government officials.

Radio Cairo, reporting the talks, said they centred on proposals in the 1978-82 five-year plan to increase the rate of development from nine to 12 per cent. Mr. Qaisuni reportedly said the World Bank would step up credit to Egypt and help finance the \$10 billion plan.

The Ministers of the Economy and Economic Co-operation, Hamad Sayeh, and of Finance, Salah Hamad, took part in the discussions.

China hopes for stronger EEC, Teng tells France's Barre

PEKING, Jan. 20 (AFP). — French Prime Minister Raymond Barre and Chinese Vice-Premier Teng Hsiao-ping devoted their meeting this morning to in-depth discussions of international issues.

On leaving the Great Hall of the People where the two teams met for two and a quarter hours, Mr. Barre told reporters: "We had an extremely interesting and detailed conversation."

The prime minister said sub-

jects discussed included detente, disarmament, relations between developed and developing countries, Asia and Africa.

Mr. Teng last night told Mr. Barre that China hoped to see the continued growth and strengthening of the European Economic Community (EEC).

Mr. Teng said that confronted with superpower aggression and expansion, the existence of an increasingly united and strong Europe was in the interests of the European people.

"We are pleased to note that in the European Economic Community there has been gradual coordination of policies and actions which are playing an ever more important role in the international arena."

"We hope that, guided by the general goal of strength through unity, the EEC will steadily grow and become stronger. We appreciate the efforts of the French government to promote the unity of Western Europe," Mr. Teng said.

The United States has just announced its "trigger prices" which it hopes will stem the flow of below-cost foreign steel into the American market. But it is doubtful how much this will succeed in protecting the world's most expensive steel from the Japanese competition.

By Stephen Bronte

TOKYO (F.T.). — After the end of World War II, Japan desperately needed an estimated nine million tons of steel to rebuild its war-shattered economy. It is ironic that today nine million tons of unsold steel sit rusting in steel mills around the country, the result of world wide overcapacity and falling international demand.

Of the world's total steel production capacity of 675 m. tons per year, about 100 m. tons, or 15 per cent, is considered to be unneeded surplus in today's dull market. The problem has become so acute that it threatens to spark the first serious trade war since the 1930s.

Weak U.S. steel industry

At the heart of the matter is the fundamental weakness of the American steel industry. American steel is now the most expensive in the world, and without the protection of import quotas, it has seen its share of the domestic market fade. In 1977, imported steel accounted for 18-20 per cent of the American domestic market.

The Japanese could see the current flap over the steel trade coming. They raised prices several times in 1977, and offered voluntarily to restrain exports last autumn. But it was too little, too late.

To fend off the foreign invaders, the U.S. government decided to get tough. In November the "reference" or "trigger" price system was announced whereby foreign steel sold below its production cost would automatically be subject to anti-dumping duties. Using this system, the Americans hope to bring steel imports back down to a 14 per cent market share. That means closing the door on at least six million tons of imported steel this year. The reference prices, and there

will be scores of them covering all steel products exported to the U.S., will be the production cost of the world's most efficient producers of steel, the Japanese. The weighted average of the first set of trigger prices, announced this week, works out at \$330 a ton at U.S. East Coast ports of entry — 5.7 per cent below comparable U.S. products.

In many ways, Japan is the least likely place in the world to build a major steel manufacturing complex. It has no iron ore and very little coal. It is on the other side of the world from the major export markets, and it has virtually no energy resources of its own. In fact, many economic planners argued in 1947 that because of these shortcomings, Japan should abandon steel production, rely on imported steel and direct its capital elsewhere.

Obviously, that group of planners lost out when the decisions were made. Steel production became the nation's number one economic priority. The industry was given favoured treatment in getting low interest loans, and was first in line for natural resources, port development projects, tax preferences, and top managerial ability. Many of the best brains in the country were channelled into the steel industry.

Undercutting U.S. prices

The results were impressive. Japanese steel prices, 50 per cent higher than U.S. prices in 1950, were undercutting the Americans by 1960. During the same period annual production rose 4.6 times, from 4.8 m. tons to 22 m. tons. The U.S. and Japan have been fighting a running battle over steel imports ever since then. In 1976 Japan exported 26 m. tons of steel, or 33.6 per cent of its total production.

The notion that the Japanese steel industry was bombed flat during the war, and

then rebuilt from scratch is untrue. Only 24.5 per cent of the industry's plant was damaged during the war. But the production of 7.6 m. tons a year at that time is negligible compared to today's 140 m. ton per year capacity.

Modernisation

Until 1955, all increases in production were due to modernisation of existing facilities, and no new plants were built. The 10 year delay was crucial. In 1953 the world's most efficient steel manufacturing process was invented by the Austrians, using the basic oxygen furnace (BOF). After 1955 the Japanese went on a building spree taking advantage of this new technological development, 93 per cent of Japan's current steel manufacturing capacity was built after 1955, while the figure is only 32 per cent for the U.S.

The BOF was instrumental in the rise of the Japanese steel industry. The construction cost is only 50-70 per cent of a traditional open hearth furnace, and it uses raw materials more efficiently, cutting the production cost of steel by 20-40 per cent. Today BOFs account for 80.9 per cent of Japan's steel production, compared to only 62.5 per cent in the U.S.

While BOFs were being built throughout the country, industry representatives negotiated long term (15 year) raw material supply contracts which gave them the cheapest raw materials in the world. A huge fleet of bulk carriers was then constructed to get the needed coal, iron ore and oil to the factories.

Labour factor

Another key factor in the Japanese equation for steel production is the labour force. Because of Japan's lifetime employment system, unions do not view modernisation of facilities as a threat to jobs. Strikes are rare, and wage increases are kept to a minimum during times of economic trouble. And while George Meany, the godfather of American labour leaders, accuses steel imports of stealing American

jobs, what else could one expect when American steelworkers earn \$12 an hour and the Japanese get only \$6.50?

But while the efficiency of the Japanese steel industry earns world wide praise, their pricing policy is a disgrace. While American and European steel companies use a published price list, the Japanese have come to use a system known as the joint open sales price, or the "kokai hanbi".

Unofficial cartel

The kokai hanbai system amounts to an unofficial cartel. Each month representatives from the major producers and the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) have a friendly get-together. They discuss the current problems of the industry, decide on the following month's production, and fix wholesale prices. About 80 per cent of Japan's steel is priced in this way.

But when the demand for steel becomes slack, the kokai hanbi system breaks down. The wholesalers who market the steel start offering discount prices in an attempt to undersell each other. The result is that prices slide, as has happened this year. The rock bottom prices being offered in the U.S. today do not represent Japanese steel competing with American steel. It is the Japanese trading companies trying to undersell each other in the American market.

Yen revaluation

The Japanese now argue that this year's 25 per cent revaluation of the yen has brought their prices into line with those of American producers. But this is the old familiar smoke-screen. Import contracts for most raw materials, which account for as much as 60 per cent of the cost of steel production in Japan, are dollar denominated. This means that the cost of raw materials, along with imported foreign equipment, is now cheaper.

The result is that for every 10 per cent revaluation of the yen, the cost of Japanese steel should go up by only six per cent. And as of October,

1977, Japanese steel still had a price advantage of 10-15 per cent over American steel.

MITI's strategy of highly leveraging the steel industry worked very well in the period of high economic growth. Japanese steel companies have a debt equity ratio of 4:1 versus the 1:1 ratio of their American counterparts. At the time, many accused the Americans of being fiscally too conservative and holding back on new investments.

Since the oil crisis, Japanese steel production has fallen to 70 per cent of its capacity. Heavy debt financing has turned on the Japanese, changing from a docile house pet to a vicious beast. Steel companies are now chafing under a heavy burden of debt. This fact, combined with the industry's precarious short term liquidity ratio means that the companies must liquidate inventories to raise cash needed to pay upcoming bills. In the end, producers must oversell instead of curtailing production. Hence the unpopularity of the Japanese steel exporter.

Reference price system

The reference price system despite all the fanfare, will not rescue the American steel industry, for it cannot cover the fact that the Japanese still produce steel cheaper than the Americans. Thus, it will not have any big impact on Japanese steel exports to the U.S.

With the reference price around 5.7 per cent below American market prices, the Japanese can happily continue undercutting their American competitors. This really is slowly down on the American government later in 1978, as another round of protection measures will be forthcoming. Either the U.S. will voluntarily restrict exports, or it will really get nasty by renewing anti-dumping legal action and instituting a direct quota system. For the export-conscious Japanese there is nothing more distasteful than a

Financial Times News-Feature

مكتبة الامم

FORECAST FOR SATURDAY, JAN. 21, 1978

Your Daily HOROSCOPE

from the CARROLL RIGHTER INSTITUTE

GENERAL TENDENCIES: A day for organizing your thoughts and making long-range plans for the future. Maintain a cheerful manner in your dealings with others in matter how you feel. Be more optimistic.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Morning is fine for formulating ideas that are workable and then take the right steps to put them in operation.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Some changes must be made at home in order to improve conditions. Be careful of stumbling blocks in the path of your progress.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Study your surroundings carefully and make needed improvements. Make the evening a happy one with congenials.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to June 21) An expert can be helpful to you if you contact this person early in the day. Make sure your home is in fine order.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21) A clever idea can bring you benefits, so be sure to act upon it. Try to be less antagonistic toward your mate.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Listen to what an adviser has to suggest about expanding at this time. Study your monetary position well and cut unnecessary expenses.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Do whatever will please a good friend, even though it may not be to your liking. Take no risks with your health.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Study credit affairs and do whatever is necessary to improve it. Make the evening happy from a social standpoint.

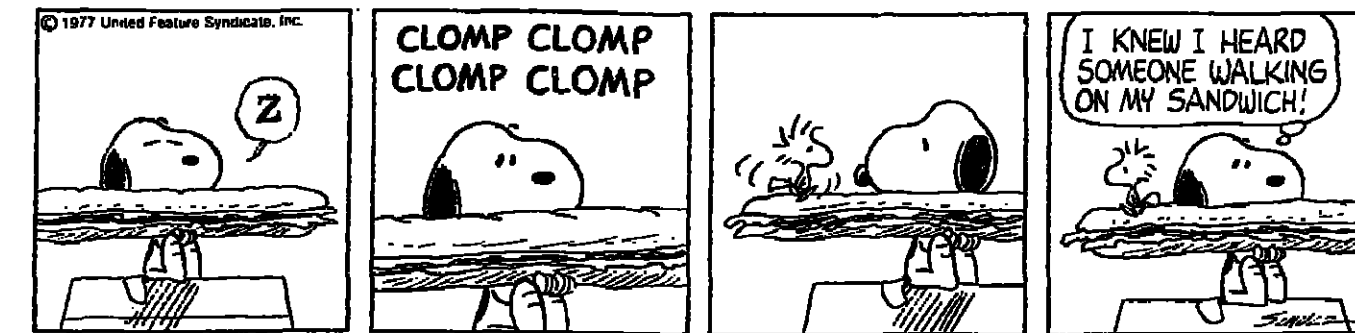
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) You have a good idea but it requires study and work in order to make it work well for you. Be careful of strangers.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Study your duties and figure out a way to handle them more efficiently. Express happiness with loved one.

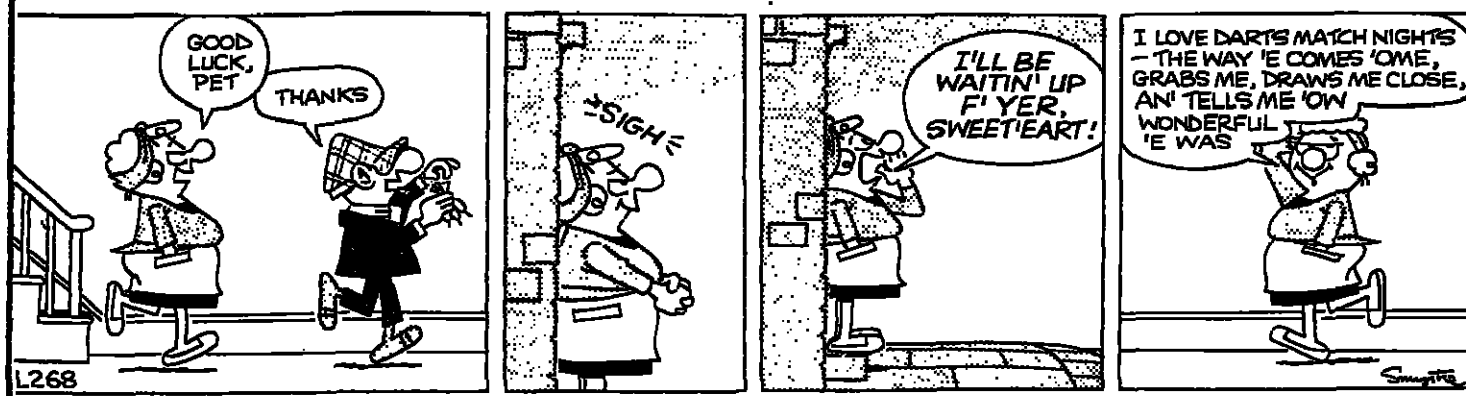
AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Contact an associate and discuss ways to have greater income in the future. Strive for increased happiness.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Study a new plan that could give you greater abundance in the future. You can now better comprehend a matter of importance.

PEANUTS



ANDY GARR



MUTT & JEFF



THE FLINTSTONES



LAUGHS FROM EUROPE

ENGLAND
Cookson

THE BETTER HALF

By Barnes



GORED BRIDGE

BY CHARLES H. GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
© 1978 by Chicago Tribune

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH

♦ Q9

♥ 103

♦ KJ982

♦ 7653

WEST

♦ A8742

♥ 72

♦ 10754

♦ A9

SOUTH

♦ K3

♥ A98654

♦ A

♦ KQ8

The bidding:

South West North East

1♥ Pass 1NT Pass

4♥ Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: Two of ♠.

In this day of proliferating

calculators, people seem to

be losing the ability to count.

At any rate, that seemed to

be West's affliction on this

hand.

Once North showed the

values for a response, South

bid what he expected to

make. It was unfortunate

that most of his partner's

values appeared to be use-

less.

West led a low trump,

and the queen forced the

ace. Declarer returned a

trump to East's king, and

East shifted to the two of

clubs. The queen lost to the

ace, and the club return was

taken by the king. Next, de-

clarer cashed the ace of di-

amonds.

Declarer then led a low spade, and when West elected to follow low, school was out. Dummy's queen won, and declarer had the entry he needed to discard a loser on the king of diamonds. West made his ace of spades for the third trick for the defenders, but the down trick had gone up in smoke.

It is our contention that West should have risen with the ace of spades when declarer first led the suit, thereby denying declarer an entry to dummy. All he had to do was count the hand.

Since declarer was missing two high heart honors, it was reasonable to assume that declarer had started with a seven-card trump suit. This was fortified by the fact that declarer didn't draw another round of trumps when he had the chance. East's shift to the two of clubs meant that he had exactly four cards in that suit, so declarer was marked with three clubs. And declarer had already shown the ace of diamonds.

If declarer's remaining two cards were one diamond and one spade, the contract could not be defeated. If both were spades, rising with the ace and returning the suit could have only a beneficial result.

If declarer had two losing spades, East would score the king. If declarer held the king of spades, he would be locked in his hand with no way to get to dummy, and he would have to concede a club trick to East for down one.

JUMBLE

by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

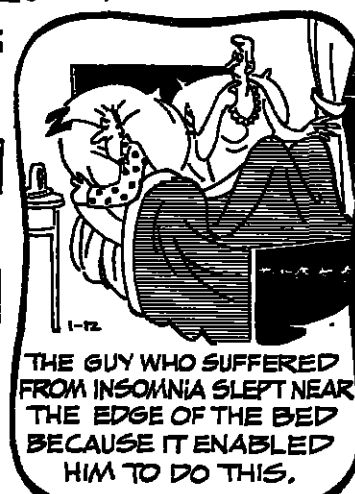
Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

DYPUG

GOROF

FLEEDI

TARROM



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer here:

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's

Jumbles: CABLE ENTRY ADJUST FORGE

Answer: Tip them to keep quiet - TOES

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

1. Regular

6. Triangular inset

10. Between walls

12. Roulette bet

13. Skate

14. Urchins

17. Guido's lowest note

18. Herd of whales

19. Category

20. Direct

22. Bourgeois

23. Rough lea

24. Unit of work

25. Lots

SAG BUT SODA
EVANISH OPAL
DEPOT EQUINE
RET ECO NEE
WAR PRAISE
OG GES NISAN
NEWEL OCT NO
RELINE EGG
AMI ERE PAU
PETITE BUGLE
EDEN NEUTRAL
RARE ERN ERA

SOLUTION OF YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

DOWN

1. Open hat: French

2. Alone

3. Possessive adjective

4. Away from: prefix

5. Ship

6. Stay rope

7. Gold in heraldry

8. Classified

9. Actor

11. Distraught

15. Highly emotional

16. Membership

18. Down

19. Blunderbuss

21. Sea bird

22. Spar

25. Knickknack

26. Cuckoo

27. Otello's villain

28. Profitable

29. Enigma or blackjack

31. Concord

32. Slay

33. Cures

35. Requisite

36. Cadmus' daughter

39. Interim

40. Amazon tributary

42. Forward

43. Polo team

Part time 25 min.

AP Newsfeatures

1:14

43.

Polo team

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE

JORDAN TELEVISION

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Conflict grows hotter as Viets annihilate Cambodian battalion

BANGKOK, Jan. 20 (R). — Vietnam declared today that its patience with Cambodia was wearing thin, indicating fresh Cambodian border attacks would meet stern retaliation. Vietnam also said it had wiped out an entire Cambodian army battalion and captured more than 100 weapons. The Vietnam news agency said the raid was a retaliatory action for two attacks in the last two days by Cambodian troops in the border sector.

Observers here saw the Vietnamese statements as among the toughest yet from Hanoi in the month-old border war between the two communist neighbours.

Fighting has flared up throughout this month, and today's Hanoi statement, that its forces have wiped out an entire Cambodian battalion of 1,000 men, showed the conflict was still intense.

Cambodia's official radio reported no fresh developments in the war today as the country's leaders continued talks with Chinese envoy, Mme. Teng Ying-chao, the widow of Premier Zhou En-lai.

Mme. Teng met Cambodian Premier Pol Pot yesterday for the second consecutive day, the radio said.

There is speculation that her visit is aimed at sounding out prospects of bringing Vietnam and Cambodia to the negotiating table.

Meanwhile, China for the first time today threw the blame for the Cambodian-Vietnamese conflict on the Soviet Union.

The official Chinese press published a New China News Agency (NCNA) article accusing the Soviet Union of "stirring up trouble and adding fuel to the conflict" between the two countries.



Italian Premier-designate Giulio Andreotti answers reporters questions in Rome last week when he announced his resignation. Mr. Andreotti is back in the saddle now after President Giovanni Leone asked him to form the government again on Thursday night. (AP wirephoto)

Suspects in killing of Spanish premier freed

MADRID, Jan. 20 (AFP). — A Madrid court today annulled all suspects charged with the 1973 assassination of Premier Luis Carrero Blanco. It also annulled those charged with the bombing in 1974 of the Madrid Police Headquarters at the Puerta del Sol in which 13 died and 70 were injured. A total of 19 people, most of them Basque separatists, were affected by the court's decision. Admiral Carrero Blanco died on Dec. 20, 1973, after his car was blasted up over a six-storey building by a landmine placed in a tunnel beneath a street which he travelled regularly to attend Mass. Responsibility was claimed by the Basque separatist group ETA, but among those arrested for the bombing was the Madrid sociologist Genoveva Forest. She and ETA militant Jose Ignacio Mugica Aguirre were both also charged in connection with the Puerta del Sol bombing, nine months later.

Salisbury talks abruptly deferred till next week

SALISBURY, Jan. 20 (Agencies). — Black and white Rhodesian leaders are close to agreement on safeguards for minority whites under black rule, informed sources said last night.

But plans for Prime Minister Ian Smith, Bishop Abel Muzorewa and the Rev. Ndengezi Sithole to continue negotiations today were unexpectedly shelved after yesterday's session.

A government spokesman said they would now resume some time next week at the request of Mr. Sithole.

The sources said it had been hoped to reach agreement today on the final remaining problem — the composition of the security forces after legal independence. But the delay was not regarded as a major setback.

Meanwhile, Britain yesterday welcomed the decision by the exiled Rhodesian nationalist Patriotic Front to resume direct talks with Foreign Secretary David Owen on the Anglo-American plan for an internationally-acceptable settlement in Rhodesia.

A Foreign Office spokesman

in London yesterday said that before replying to Patriotic Front co-leaders Joshua Nkomo and Robert Mugabe, Dr. Owen would assess prospects for a meeting in Malta next week, as suggested by the two exiled Rhodesian nationalist leaders.

House arrest anew for Mrs. Bhutto

KARACHI, Jan. 20 (R). — Mrs. Nusrat Bhutto, wife of Pakistan's ousted prime minister, was last night placed under renewed house arrest in Karachi "until Jan. 24", police sources said. She and her daughter Benazir were last weekend released from house arrest in Lahore. Miss Bhutto was yesterday driven from the family's Karachi seaside villa and the sources said she was being taken to Lahore. No official reason was given for last night's order but Pakistan People's Party (PPP) sources said Mrs. Bhutto had planned to watch the third cricket test match between Pakistan and London in Karachi today. Fierce clashes between rival political groups erupted when Mrs. Bhutto, who became leader of the PPP following a military coup against Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto last July, appeared as a spectator at the second test match in Lahore last month.

of-the-road parties have refused to form a coalition with the Christian Democrats alone, the Communists hold the key.

Communist Party leader Enrico Berlinguer has even suggested that a left-wing government could be formed without the Christian Democrats, but his calculation, though theoretically possible, is not being taken seriously here even by the Communists themselves.

Not even the Communists themselves can imagine the

Christian Democrats, who have dominated Italian politics for 30 years, to be relegated to the opposition — given the international consequences.

The Communists, therefore, have stiffened their stand at the start of consultations to form the new government, a process which could be long and arduous.

This could be a tactical manoeuvre, however, with the Communists willing to accept a de-facto entrance into a ruling coalition.

China's Teng: No chance of rapprochement with Moscow

PEKING, Jan. 20 (AFP). — Chinese Vice Premier Teng Hsiao-ping said in an interview today that there was no possibility of any rapprochement between China and the Soviet Union.

Interviewed for French Television, Vice Premier Teng warned that China was not afraid of the Soviet Union in case the Russians attempted a war of aggression.

Mr. Teng predicted that the country that had launched the offensive between Cambodia and Vietnam would "come to no good end."

His remark followed an earlier dispatch by the official New China News Agency blaming the Soviet Union for the Cambodian-Vietnamese conflict. China has supported Cambodia in this affair.

Asked whether China would modify its policy towards France if the leftists won the coming French general elections,

Mr. Teng replied that this would depend on the new leaders' attitude but the people of the two countries had always enjoyed friendly relations. If the French position towards China remained the same the two countries would remain on good terms and there would be no problem, Mr. Teng said.

No rapprochement

Questioned on a possible Sino-Soviet rapprochement, Mr. Teng replied with another question: "Do you think the Soviet's social-imperialist nature could change? I don't." In reply to another question the Chinese vice premier said he does not consider the possibility of a Sino-Soviet conflict sparked by American meddling, which would push certain Chinese leaders into the areas of the Russians. Mr. Teng said: "Perhaps some people would like to see war between China and the Soviet Union. If the Soviets dared to attack we would not be afraid."

Thousands of East Europeans said to fight Ethiopian wars

NAIROBI, Jan. 20 (Agencies). — Somalia's charge d'affaires in Kenya said today there were between 7,000 and 8,000 Russians and between 6,000 and 7,000 Cubans supporting Ethiopia in its wars against Somali forces in the east and Eritrean guerrillas in the north.

Mr. Dahir Hussein Dirir told a press conference there was also a force of 5,000 to 6,000 from other Warsaw Pact countries, including East Germany, Czechoslovakia, Poland and Hungary, in Ethiopia.

"All the big hotels, palaces and military barracks are freely used by them," he said. His information was based on Somali intelligence networks, he said.

American intelligence estimates have said up to 2,000 Cubans and 1,000 Soviet military advisers have been flown to Ethiopia to help train the country's forces in the use of

new tanks, aircraft and guns rushed in from the Soviet Union in the last few months.

Ethiopia maintains it is only receiving material help from Cuba and the Soviet Union, and a senior Ethiopian official this week, denied that any foreign personnel were fighting on Ethiopian soil.

Ethiopia slams West

Meanwhile, a member of Ethiopia's ruling Military Council (Dergue) yesterday accused the West of a campaign of vilification against Ethiopia even though "invading Somali forces" were committing "indescribable atrocities" against

innocent and unarmed civilians on Ethiopian territory.

The Dergue's Information and Public Relations chief, Sub-Lt. Tamrat Ferede, told a delegation of South Yemeni journalists visiting Addis Ababa "frantic" attempts to reverse the Ethiopian revolution and violate the country's unity and territorial integrity had "occasioned direct imperialist involvement, more particularly on the part of American imperialism."

He said Ethiopia "harboured no territorial ambitions" against her neighbours but would "resolutely defend her frontiers" no matter how bitter or protracted the struggle.

Soares signs pact with conservatives

LISBON, Jan. 20 (AFP). — Portugal's caretaker Premier, Socialist Mario Soares, last night signed a coalition pact with the conservative Socialist Democratic Centre (CDS).

Reliable sources said the CDS would hold three of a dozen posts and five of about 30 junior ministries in a streamlined government. In addition, a CDS member will replace Socialist Vasco da Gama Fernandes as President of the National Assembly next October, and Mr. Soares has proposed CDS Party leader Diogo Freitas da Amaral for that job.

The pact, ending a six-week government crisis, was condemned by Communist Party chief Alvaro Cunhal yesterday as "an unnatural marriage."

Mr. Soares, expressing regret that a pact with the Communists had not been possible, has said the Socialists would not undermine the "social and political conquests" of the 1974 revolution.

The pact, he said, would enable him to govern "in stability and for a long time." Mr. Soares had been premier of a minority government since July 1976, after the first elec-

tions in over 40 years. The coalition will theoretically control 143 of the 263 seats in the National Assembly, though Mr. da Amaral said in a television interview last night that some dissent was to be expected in his own party.

Unmanned craft will dock with Soviet Salyut-6

MOSCOW, Jan. 20 (R). — The Soviet Union today launched an unmanned space transport spacecraft which will try to dock with the orbiting space station Salyut-6, the Tass news agency reported today.



S. African bulldozers encroach on blacks

CAPE TOWN, Jan. 20 (R). — Black squatters in the shanty town of Unibell yesterday began dismantling their shacks to save them from destruction as government bulldozers demolish the camp. Scores of people helped to take down Unibell Nonchakazi School, collecting the sheets of corrugated iron for use in another camp. A spokesman for the regional Bantustan Administration Board, which is supervising the demolition of the township, said because the squatters had been taking down their own homes, the clearance might be completed by soon. The government says the squatters are in an "illegal" area. It has set up an office at Unibell to provide warrants for residents wishing to be settled in the homeland — the areas set aside for blacks under South Africa's racial segregation system.

Rebel camps fall to Filipino troops

MANILA, Jan. 20 (Agencies). Government forces captured a major Muslim rebel camp in southern Philippines on Monday after fierce fighting. It was announced today. A military spokesman said that 1,000 troops were involved in the attack against a guerrilla force estimated at between 500 and 700. He said the rebels were members of the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF), an insurgent group fighting for Muslim self-rule since 1972 in the predominantly Christian Mindanao region, 500 miles south of here. The rebel camp which fell on Monday was the fourth captured by government forces since hostilities resumed last September after ten months of truce. The spokesman said the rebels had broken up into small bands planting mines and terrorising civilians and were avoiding confrontations on a large scale. Meanwhile informed sources in the southern Zamboanga City today said government forces have launched a large sea and air assault against rebel forces in Jolo Island, 960 km south of here. They said the main scene of fighting was in Panama on Jolo where another rebel command post was set up.

Fifth U.S. grain silo explosion

KANSAS CITY, Jan. 20 (AFP). — Three workers died as six others were injured, two of them seriously, in a grain silo explosion in the suburbs here last night. The explosion was followed by a fire which took two hours to extinguish. This is the fifth grain silo explosion in the United States in two months in which fifty people have died. Silo explosions are frequent caused by fermentation creating a gas which builds up in the stored grain.

Dutch government's programme approved

THE HAGUE, Jan. 20 (AFP). — The new right-of-centre Dutch government last night won a series of parliamentary votes which amounted to investiture. The rejection of the opposition's motions brought to an end a four-day debate on Prime Minister van Agt's government's programme.

Hijacked plane flies back to Ecuador

QUITO, Jan. 20 (AFP). — A SAETA Airliner Caravelle I landed on Wednesday to Havana flew in here yesterday and was immediately surrounded by troops. Doctors went on board to examine the passengers. The plane left Quito on Wednesday carrying 32 passengers aboard. It was hijacked en route by a man and a young woman demanding to go to Cuba. The plane first stopped at Guayaquil, where old persons, women and children were allowed to leave. The plane then stopped over in Panama for an hour's refuelling and arrived early yesterday morning in Havana.

Portugal may soon have a government but a lot must be done for 1978 to be a happy year

With inflation, unemployment, falling wages, chaotic agriculture, stumbling industry, dwindling creditworthiness and a weak caretaker government, it is hardly surprising that Portugal's president has not dared to wish his people a Happy New Year this time.

By Diana Smith

LISBON — On New Year's Day, President of the republic Gen. Ramalho Eanes addressed the Portuguese people on national television. He warned them that, in 1978, Portugal would have to put her house in order, since she was burdened by an intolerable trading deficit and the threat of such excessive reliance on the outside world that her very national sovereignty was in danger.

Significantly perhaps, President Eanes did not wish the public a Happy New Year. Indeed, barring incurable optimists, the people of Portugal have little to be happy about as 1977 ends and 1978 begins.

Inflation, unemployment, a drop in real wages, chaotic agriculture and stumbling industry are factors that many countries have to cope with in the latter half of the 20th century, but Portugal's woes are aggravated by her traditional dependence on the outside world for essential supplies.

Furthermore, since Dec. 8, 1977, Portugal has not had anything more than a caretaker government. On the day, Prime Minister Mario Soares, leader of the minority socialist executive, found himself defeated in parliament on a motion of confidence in which rivals to his left and his right joined forces to stymie their disapproval of his administration.

Thus, vital decisions must constantly be shelved until a new cabinet can be formed: the country has no budget for 1978, no overall government plan and, worse still, dwindling foreign exchange reserves with which to pay the end-of-

year import bills. Before he can form a new government — having been invited to do so by President Eanes — Mr. Soares must work out a common platform for a coalition government. This is a delicate task which, so far, has met with little success.

The thorniest item in this platform is the need for the Portuguese to tighten their collective belts in 1978 to the point where it will hurt. If they do not do so, the country runs the risk of witnessing the disappearance of her foreign creditworthiness — on which Portugal depends for survival — and the need to sell precious gold reserves to pay basic bills.

The value of real wages dropped by about 18 per cent in 1977. The cost of living (excluding rents) rose by about 29.5 per cent. Certain food supplies — namely, milk and dried cod, once a national staple — are running irritatingly short. The average Portuguese worker is not over-enchanted by the prospect of an austere 1978.

Furthermore the Communist

Party, which still strongly dominates the labour world, is pressing its claims with the Socialists, demanding that the man in the street not be forced to bear the brunt of national sacrifice.

On the other hand, the Portuguese businessman is also determined not to suffer excessive sacrifice. Private enterprise still accounts for more than 89 per cent of national production (although the public sector now holds nearly 50 per cent of the fixed capital formation), 95 per cent of employment and 93 per cent of exports, covering about 36,000 small, medium and large firms.

One of the proposals put forward by the International Monetary Fund as a means of holding down the growth of Portugal's GDP in 1978 and, consequently, containing inflation, is a fierce credit squeeze. This would affect both the consumer and the investor, with drastically selective credit and high rates of interest.

Since Portuguese industry, whether private or public, can never recover fully until massive investment is made in new

plant to replace antiquated equipment, a 1978 credit squeeze is viewed with dismay.

Furthermore, reliant as it is on imports of raw materials and capital equipment, Portuguese industry will be hit hard by the IMF's request to contain imports for at least a year, both through basic cuts, and further devaluation of the escudo (already about 24 per cent lower than its December 1976 rate).

Meanwhile, alarmingly to many observers, a parallel black market economy is sprouting. It is based on illegal transactions in foreign currency by the "man around the corner" who gives tourists a strikingly favourable rate of exchange for their dollars, pounds, marks, francs or pesetas.

This currency is then spent on smuggled domestic appliances (up to one-third of all those sold in the country, many sources agree), meat, fish, tobacco and liquor. Just after Christmas, 18 tonnes of meat were found by the frontier police concealed in a lorry shipment of metal ingots coming in from Spain. This is not the first incident of its kind.

Financial Times

News-Features

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